



St Andrew's C of E Primary School 26th June

Everyone is different. Everyone is special. Everyone is our neighbour.





It has certainly been a very hot week!

Thank you to parents/ carers for working with the school in ensuring your child has had a hat, sunscreen and water bottle. I am incredibly grateful to our teachers and teaching assistants who have worked hard, in very warm classrooms, to adapt the curriculum and adjust teaching to ensure learning was manageable and children were kept safe. The children have been incredible in their resilience and perseverance.

Thank you also, for your understanding around having to close the school today. I was hoping to work around the heat and two classrooms being out of action, but the lack of water was not an option in terms of keeping children safe. I appreciate the supportive messages we have received about this unavoidable closure.

I hope we can all enjoy a slightly cooler weekend!

Adapting our learning in the heat...

The photos give some examples of how learning has been adapted in the heat: Year 5 teaching Year 2 online chess (chess is an Olympic sport so this was a calmer PE lesson!) and Reception class taking time to appreciate nature and the outdoors in the shade.









...and keeping cool at break times















SIAMS report

We have received our SIAMS report and are really pleased by what strengths were highlighted about the school (copied below). Thank you to all the staff, parents and pupils who make St Andrew's such a wonderful community to be a part of.

The full report can be found on our website: [St Andrew's Church of England Primary School, Oxford - Inspections](#)

Notable Strengths

- St Andrew's' Christian vision and associated values are the beating heart of the school. The vision addresses the school's diverse context and promotes the flourishing of pupils and adults.
- Pupils at the school are known, valued and cared for as individuals. This means that they, including those who are deemed to be vulnerable and/or disadvantaged, thrive because their learning and social needs are met.
- Pupils actively seek to live out the vision by being a good Samaritan to their peers of whatever age. As a result, the school is characterised by harmonious, supportive relationships.
- The curriculum and extra-curricular activities at St Andrew's are rich and inclusive. This means that, pupils, irrespective of learning need or disadvantage, enjoy school and thrive both academically and socially.
- Spirituality is an intrinsic part of school life at St Andrew's. Pupils develop spiritually through the consistent opportunities for reflection in both collective worship and the taught curriculum.

Year 5 author trip

On Wednesday 24th June, we went to Magdalen College School to meet the author, Rhian Tracey. She talked about her books. She spoke about how her three books are set during World War Two.

Rhian Tracey was inspired to write these books because her Great Aunt worked for MI5 and MI6 as a codebreaker. Her Great Aunt learnt Japanese in six months because she had to find out what the Japanese military were talking about.

After the talk, everybody got to meet the author, we all got our bookmarks signed!

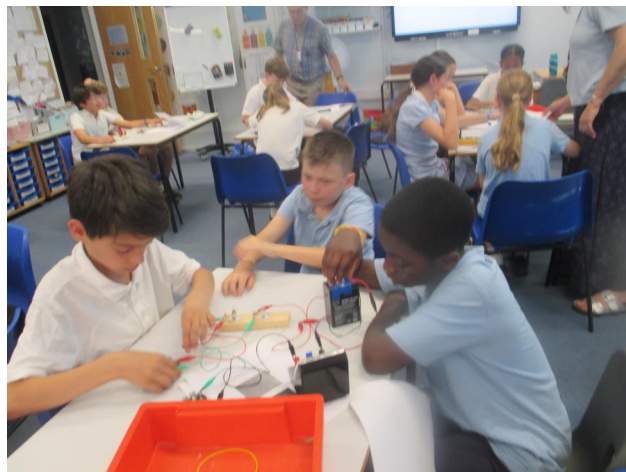
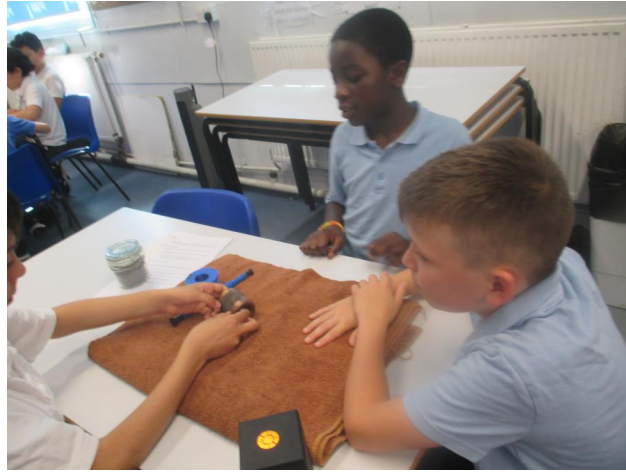
We then had a picnic in some cool shade under a tree. We all had a great time.

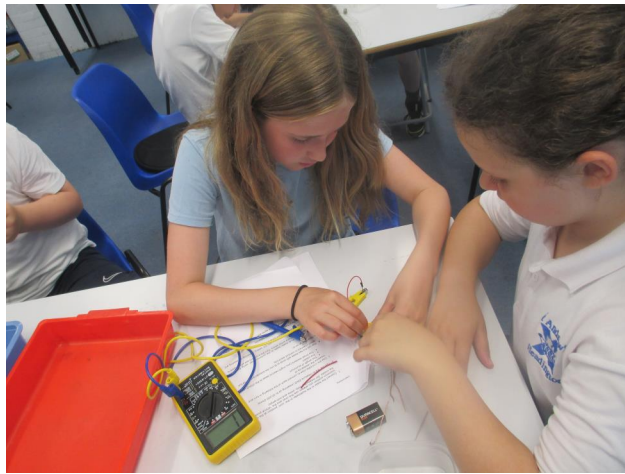
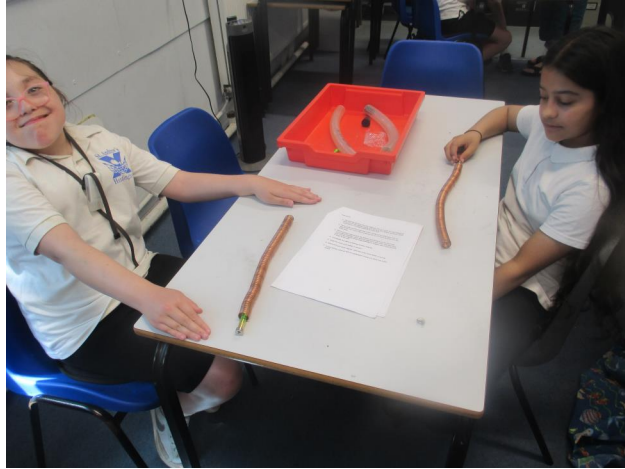
By Zoryanna and Charlie (Year 5)

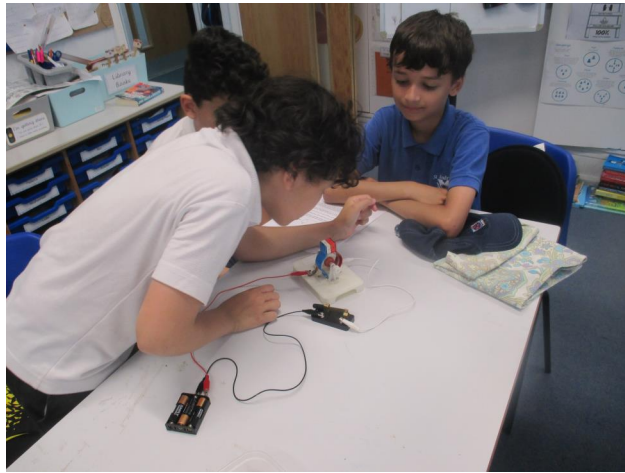
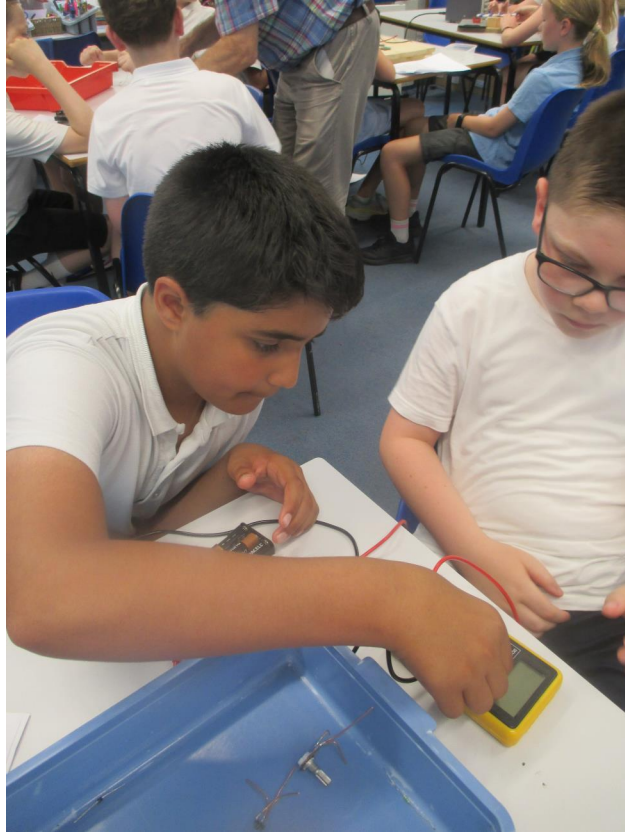


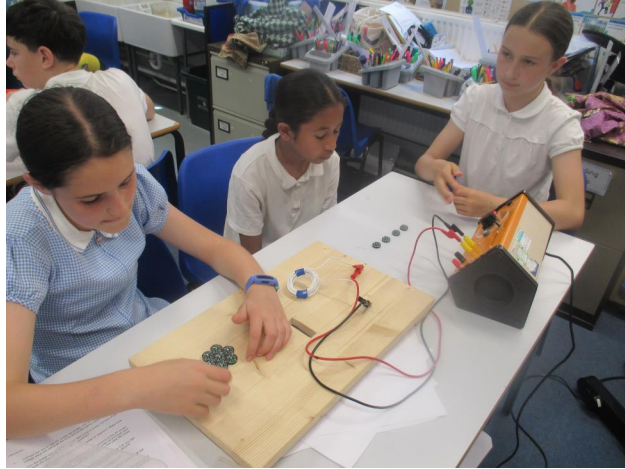
Year 6 electricity workshop

Year 6 had a hands-on electricity workshop in school on Wednesday. James Balkin, who volunteers to support our Science learning in school, brought in some exciting equipment and the children were learning through experimenting.









Exciting opportunity...

On Saturday 4th July, one of our parents, Sholto Kynoch, will be giving a piano recital at St Andrew's Church. Sholto is an international pianist and Artistic Director of Oxford Song.

The concert is at 5.30, and will be very accessible for children. We highly recommend coming to the concert with your child if they are learning the piano or another instrument, as it will be truly inspirational; equally all children would enjoy this amazing opportunity to hear live piano music.

Please also consider asking others in the local community to come.

Money raised from tickets sold will go back into supporting music at St Andrew's School. Last year, we raised money for a new piano, and have been able to include learning to play the gamelan in our curriculum, amongst other musical things.

Tickets are available at the school office or through this link: [Sholto Kynoch: Piano Recital | Events | Oxford Song](#) (£7 for an adult / £3 for a child). We are keen to make the concert accessible for all, so please do be in touch if you would like a free reserved ticket.

A poster for a piano concert. The background is light blue with several black musical notes scattered around. The central graphic is a black silhouette of a piano. Inside the piano's body, the word "PIANO" is written in large yellow letters, and "CONCERT" is written in large white letters below it. The piano's keyboard is shown at the bottom of the silhouette. In the top right corner, a black scalloped-edged circle contains the text "SATURDAY 4 JULY 5:30PM" in yellow. Below the piano silhouette, the text "SPECIAL RECITAL BY" is in black, followed by a black banner with "SHOLTO KYNOCH" in yellow. Below the banner, it says "An hour of music by Bach, Mendelssohn, Schubert, and Mompou" in black. The venue "ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH" is in bold black. Ticket prices "£7 for adults, £3 for children" are listed below. A QR code is on the left, and "BOOK ONLINE" is on the right with a curved arrow pointing to the QR code. At the bottom, it says "All funds raised will support music provision at St. Andrew's School" and "Please stay for a glass of wine or soft drink after the show!"

**PIANO
CONCERT**

**SATURDAY
4 JULY
5:30PM**

SPECIAL RECITAL BY
SHOLTO KYNOCH

An hour of music by Bach, Mendelssohn,
Schubert, and Mompou

ST. ANDREW'S CHURCH

Tickets: £7 for adults, £3 for children

**All funds raised will support
music provision at
St. Andrew's School**

**BOOK
ONLINE**

Please stay for a glass of wine or soft drink after the show!

Conversation starters with your child

From **Dame Rachel de Souza, Children's Commissioner:**

At a time of significant change for children and young people, it is more important than ever that their voices are heard. Through The Big Future, I can take the views of your students directly to government and ensure their priorities help inform the decisions that affect their lives.

I would be grateful if you could complete this survey:

<https://www.childrenscommissioner.gov.uk/thebigfuture>

After school club

Bookings are now available for After School Club 2026-2027. When you book, you will only need to do so once for the whole year. Your child will only be removed from the register when you request that via email to the school office.

Free school meal eligibility

The government has recently changed the process for free school meal eligibility. A paper form (Annex A) was sent home to every child which needs to be completed for every child, regardless of whether you think you are or are not eligible for free school meals. Please can you return this as soon as possible.

Waitrose tokens

Please remember to put some tokens in the St Andrew's box to secure our school some money. Windmill Primary also has a box, so the competition is on!



Cheney upcoming events

['Nature Late' Festival, 2nd July, 6 - 8pm](#)

Nature Late will celebrate the world of nature on site at Cheney School through talks, workshops, stalls, activities and exhibitions. The schedule is as follows:

6 - 6.30pm - In Conversation with Roger Harrabin, previously BBC Environmental Analyst

6 - 8pm - Ecology Festival for all ages with a large range of science and nature-themed stalls and activities

8 - 11pm - Bat Night with Ben Carpenter from Bioscan UK

If you would like to attend any part of the event, please fill in [this form](#).

It is free and aimed at all ages. There will be live performances and refreshments as well as many stalls and activities, crafts, talks and workshops.

[Iris Classics Summer School, 17th - 19th August](#)

We are delighted to be offering our tenth annual Classics Summer School this August at the Iris Classics Centre at Cheney School in Oxford. It will take place on the mornings of 18th, 19th and 20th August. This year the summer school will be themed on the ancient star myths and astronomy.

The format for each day will be as follows:

9 – 10.30am – Latin (ages 7 – 9); Latin (ages 10 – 11); Greek (ages 7 – 9); Greek (ages 10 – 11)

10.30 – 11.15am – refreshments and activities

11.15 – 12.45pm – Latin (ages 7 – 9); Latin (ages 10 – 11); Greek (ages 7 – 9); Greek (ages 10 – 11)

The classes will be run by experienced teachers and will include activities as well as language learning. **They will all be aimed at complete beginners.** There will be themed activity stalls and refreshments between the morning classes.

Please visit the webpage [here](#) for more details and booking.

[Classics Creative Writing Cafe & Weekly Writing Nook](#)

The Iris Project runs a monthly Classics and Creative Writing Cafe, and also a weekly Writing Nook.

The cafe is a relaxed and informal opportunity to come and share ideas, have a go at writing, or just relax and read and chat in a beautiful setting. Each session has a different classical theme as a prompt if people want to have a go at writing while there. All genres are welcome!

The cafe is usually held once a month at St Alban's Church in Charles Street, Oxford from 2 until 4pm. There are hot and cold drinks and snacks available (we welcome donations towards refreshment costs).

The next date will be **Saturday 6th June, 2 – 4pm** – Hector and Achilles (book 22 of Homer's Iliad)

The cafe is aimed at ages 14 + to adult, and is run by Iris director Dr Lorna Robinson (author of novels [Hamadryad](#), [The Birder](#) and [Flower Gatherers](#), and short story collection [Telling Tales in Nature](#)). Please contact her on lorna@irisproject.org.uk if you have any questions about the cafe.

You can attend as a one off or regularly – please book using the email address above.

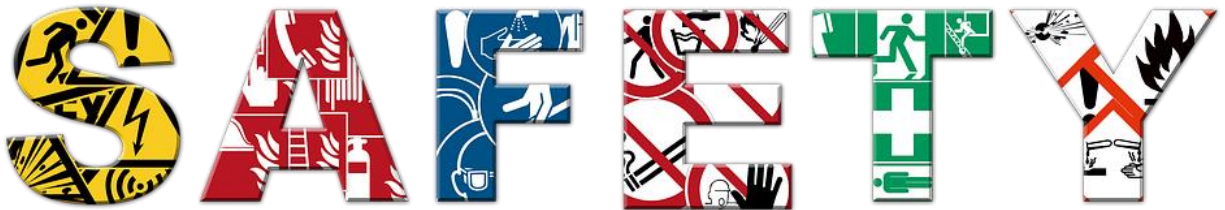
We also run a weekly writing space with a classics library – find out more [here](#).

Coffee mornings



Every Thursday morning will be a coffee morning with Mrs Suzanne Walker. Feel free to pop in any time between 8.45 - 9.30am to meet other parents/ carers or to talk to Mrs Walker. The coffee morning will be held in the learning base - come to the school reception to be signed in.

Health, Safety and safeguarding



Oral hygiene information

<https://supervised-toothbrushing.my.canva.site/june-newsletter-smile360>

Primary School Health Nursing Newsletter June 2026

<https://sway.cloud.microsoft/S5JuiRh8BMANXEhr?ref=email&loc=play>

Safeguarding

Mrs Jo Holmes is our designated safeguarding lead and Mrs Mary Wright is our deputy designated safeguarding lead. If you ever have any concerns about the safety of a child, please do let us know.

ALWAYS FOLLOW THE WATER SAFETY CODE



Whenever you are around water:

STOP AND THINK STAY TOGETHER

Take time to assess your surroundings.
Look for the dangers and always research local signs and advice.



When around water always go with friends or family.
Swim at a lifeguarded venue.



In an emergency:

CALL 999

If you are at the coast, call 999 and ask for the Coastguard.
Don't enter the water to rescue.



FLOAT

Fall in or become tired - stay calm, float on your back and call for help.
Throw something that floats to somebody that has fallen in.



Enjoy Water Safety | Free From Drowning



Learn more about water safety.
Scan the QR code

Dates



Term dates for this academic year (2025-26) are available [here](#).

Below are some key dates which impact the whole school.

In addition, class letters will have specific dates for special events, visitors or trips for your child's class.

Friday 3rd July, 11.30am - Sheldonian concert for orchestra

Monday 6th - Friday 10th July - Health week

Monday 6th July, 5.30pm - Summer Music concert (for anyone who learns an instrument in school or out of school as well as the gamelan and orchestra members) - a letter will come out about which instrument & piece your child would like to play

Wednesday 8th July - Years 3 - 6 Sports day at Horspath athletics stadium

Friday 10th July, 3.30pm - Summer Fair

Monday 13th July, 5.30pm - Piano concert

Tuesday 14th July, 10.30am - Year 6 Leavers' service at St Andrew's Church

Tuesday 14th July - end of year reports sent home

Wednesday 15th July - Transition morning (all children to next year's class)

Thursday 16th July - Year 6 leavers' assembly - Year 6 parents/ carers invited

Friday 17th July - Leavers' assembly at school

Friday 17th July - Term finishes 1.15pm (Reception), 1.30pm (Years 1 - 6)

[Helpful information for parents/ carers](#)

Parent/carer engagement:

At St Andrew's, we would love for every parent/carer to feel that they can engage with the school at the level at which they feel comfortable. For some this might mean becoming a governor; for others this might mean helping out at an event or being able to contribute financially.

SASA (St Andrew's School Association) is the parent/carer group of which every adult with a child in the school is automatically a part.

Fundraising:

As a school, we are extremely grateful to our parent body / SASA who look for ways to raise money for the school, through events such as the fun run, disco, film night etc - this all supports

the wider learning opportunities, such as keeping our lovely library well-stocked, updating our play equipment, developing our music provision. In addition, as a school, we seek out opportunities for grants and free events/ trips, to enable all of our pupils to have a rich learning experience during their time at St Andrew's.

Sometimes families are unable to attend the fund-raising events but would still like to contribute to the school. For this reason, we have set up the following options:

1. A **QR code** found on our [website](#).
2. An **Amazon 'wish list'**: <https://amzn.eu/2DAkpvb>
3. **Cashback from Sainsburys and Argos** – signing up to the MySchoolFund. When someone signs up using our school code, the individual gets 2% cashback on spend in Sainsburys and Argos and the school gets 1% in eGift vouchers. Link to our school (use postcode OX3 9ED) on the My School Fund website. If this could work for you, please do sign up. Sign up today at www.myschoolfund.org Our school registration number : 29600

Eggs: Don't forget that eggs from our very own chickens are on sale in the office. The children looking after the chickens are keen to get this money, as we need it to buy food for the chickens!

Recycling opportunity

We are really pleased to see the success of the recycling box (via Collection4Clothes) for clothes and other items. For every kg collected, the school receives 40p and also Great Ormond Street Hospital received a donation: [Clothing Collections | Great Ormond Street Charity \(gosh.org\)](http://Clothing Collections | Great Ormond Street Charity (gosh.org))

Please bring items to the box in the school office foyer. The box will be emptied on a regular basis. So, there is no deadline - bring items along as suits you. The items should be in good condition - the sort that you would take to a charity shop.

Library books: If a book is overdue, a reminder comes from the librarian. If the book is lost or damaged, the cost of the book is on that overdue reminder slip. Replacing a book or sending in money to cover the cost of the book enables the library to remain well-stocked.

Toys: At St Andrew's we ask that children do not bring in toys and special items from home, as these items can be lost, which causes upset and tension between children when accusations arise as to who might have taken or broken an item.

Information about local events

MAY 2026 CAMPS

Tech-powered camps, packed with **WOW** experiences!

Example camp activities

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WOW EXPERIENCES

WHAT TO EXPECT:

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26th - 29th May 2026
www.nextthing-education.com
WWW.NEXTTHING.EDUCATION T: 01442 873150

FACE

June 2026 Timetable

All regular sessions delivered live online via zoom, 90 minutes long
£24 each or FREE with School Membership
 Book online at facefamilyadvice.co.uk
 Recordings available for 48 hours

Understanding Anger	1 June 10am
School Anxiety	1 June 7pm
Facing Defiance	2 June 10am
Supporting Healthy Screen Use	2 June 7pm
Anxiety Explained	8 June 10am
Cannabis & Ketamine Awareness	8 June 7pm
Introduction to OCD	9 June 10am
What is ACT?	9 June 7pm
Decreasing Depression	15 June 10am
Raising Self-Esteem	15 June 7pm
Understanding the Teenage Brain	16 June 10am
Supporting Healthy Sleep	16 June 7pm
Improving Family Communication	22 June 10am
Autism-Improving Communication	22 June 7pm
Supporting a Child with ADHD	23 June 10am
Understanding Addictive Behaviour	23 June 7pm
ADHD and Homework	25 June 7-8pm

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PLAYERS FROM SCHOOL, CLUB & COUNTY PATHWAYS
LED BY EXPERIENCED PERFORMANCE COACHES

Ages 5+

13 - 14 JUNE 2026, 2PM

Mummy, what's wrong with that man's legs?

A joyful children's circus show, reimagining who the world is designed for.

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schwarzmancentre.ox.ac.uk

Schwarzman
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T&Cs apply, see website for details. Available in centres from 1st June - 31st July 2016, available online from 1st - 22nd June and 1st - 22nd July 2016 only. Available to new customers on all swimming lessons.

MORE
LEISURE



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Splash
WEEKEND

6th - 7th June

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